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Milwaukee-Downer College

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THE DIAL

Volume 1, No. 7

Milwaukee-Downer College

February 28, 1964

Chapman Report

by Barbara Allen

Recently two figures wearing trench coats and sunglasses and carrying flashlights were seen lurking about the library. Inquiries revealed that they were indeed authorized personnel; their strange garb and manner were attributed to eccentricity by the questioners but in reality were very necessary to their mission as investigators of Odd Nooks and Crannies in the Library.

There are many of these secret places of which the outside world (you and I) and some of the inside world (the library staff) has no cognizance at all. For the first time the astounding revelations are to be published.

Did you know that the library contains a safe? It is fireproof and was built as a repository for very valuable books. This is fortunate because it is back-to-back with the incinerator, right inside the library, which is used for the disposal of old books, magazines and cartons. Those back tunnel-like corridors on the ground floor in which no one dares to trespass lead to kitchens, lounges, a display room, the safe and fireplace, and the archives room.

Moving upstairs (via the back stairway, of course) one arrives in the conference room on the third floor. This is a room recently opened to students and faculty. It contains the newest books before they are shelved. To get there one tiptoes through the *sanctum sanctorum* of the technical processes room.

Perhaps the most intriguing plan of all is the fifth stack. It has more locked doors per square yard than any comparable area in the library. The Alumnae archives have been moved into one tiny corner room; the fifth stack itself, which contains duplicates of books already on the shelves, has an impressive, ponderous atmosphere. Some of the shelves are dissembled, and with the dormer nooks it gives the impression that it might be a fortress if necessary.

One can unlock another door and be greeted by a vast chasm. Braces and supports can be seen in the dim distance. Clambering carefully around, one is walking on the ceiling of the reading room! It is quite a sensation from below.

Perhaps the most romantic section of the library is the tower. Locked now

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Students Strive for Social Equality

by Joan Phillips, '67

The ranks of those in quest of equality have been swelled by Downerites who find discrimination in the Milwaukee area deplorable. There are many activities in which those interested in civil rights action may engage, and our school seems to be well represented. In order to find out more about these activities, the *Dial* has interviewed those students who are most active in the work. The areas of action cover a wide scope.

Core (Congress of Racial Equality)

This organization is "working to erase the color line through direct, non-violent action." Lee Dodds told the *Dial* that she attended CORE meetings initially in order to learn more about the discrimination situation; but after acquiring a deeper understanding of the problem and of the Negro's feelings toward it, she wants to do everything possible to help. (It seems that this is difficult for a white college student to do because of a suspicion of his motives.) CORE seems to be the most effective instrument for relieving the Negro's feeling that he must escape this crushing discrimination.

Picketing

Several students have picketed the Sherman school in protests against *de facto* segregation. All agree that this experience furnished a much deeper insight into the opinions of a people who must face the "hate stare" and the prejudice it symbolizes.

Lectures

U.W.M. is sponsoring a series of ten lectures on the Negro in America. There is a fee of \$10 for the series of talks held every Wednesday night. Gorda Shambaugh feels that even people who are not actively in favor of integration would find them extremely interesting and informative since they provide an "ideological exposure" to the problem without the necessity of the personal participation involved in picketing and CORE activities.

SEF

Three weeks ago U.W.M. organized the Student Equality Fellowship for the purposes of exploring the cultural contributions of all cultures, especially minority groups; of continuing the Civil Rights Revolution by processes resembling the march on Washington; and of combating discrimination in the Milwaukee area. SEF has planned a program of action extending beyond the usual discussion; however, this procedure is undisclosed as yet. Toini Lefren and Cathy Grant have assured the *Dial* that the SEF will contribute to the cause of equality and understanding in Milwaukee.

Tutorials

Another program recently initiated by U.W.M. is a tutorial program using interested students and members of the community to tutor youth in the "inner core" area of Milwaukee. Such communication on a personal level is hoped to answer one of the pressing problems of civil rights—the lack of communication between groups. The program is based on the proposition that integration and the removal of prejudice should begin in the field of education of the very young child, so that he will be well equipped to take his place in the integrated world of tomorrow.

Work Camps

The "inner core" of Milwaukee, with its high percentage of poverty stricken minority groups, offers a great opportunity to facilitate communication between white and colored people through a reciprocal relationship program of work camps. These week-end situations in which a volunteer works with a Negro family in the city seem to bridge a gap created by physical and material differences. Cathy Grant told the *Dial* that the program could prove an especially meaningful one for Downer students, who sometimes fail to realize the actualities of "outside" life; as it is a tremendous awakening to the verities

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THE DIAL

STAFF

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 Assistant Editor Lee Dodds
 Editorial Staff Barbara Allen,
 Cathy Grant
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Letters to the Editor

To the Editor:

While a student editor complains that "Poor Downer's Dead" (Dial, Feb. 13), alumnae are declaring "There will always be a Downer!" And they are doing something about it, planning to help transfer such treasures as the teakwood, grandfather clocks, etc. to Appleton. But more significant, they are working to dovetail Downer alumnae activities with Lawrence alumni affairs, cooperating in the exchange of information and features in the two respective publications, all the while planning to preserve the identity of each association.

The complaint is made that news of developments has never been presented. However, we might point out that since the announcement of the merger every student, every faculty member, every alumna has received a letter from Dr. Tarr. Students have been assured of arrangements for a smooth transfer of credits. They have also received a printed report from our dean's office on graduation requirements agreed upon by the two colleges. Students have further received from the registrar's office a report on financial aid available at Lawrence. Our admissions director, now dean of students to counsel with individuals on their future plans and program, has answers to some of the questions being asked.

Faculty members have been offered appointment at Lawrence on generous terms, which at present 15 have definitely accepted. Already they are represented on the curriculum committee at Appleton and have a voice in determining the program for the new university. To date 47 students have

The dangers mass communication poses to democratic institutions has long been a favorite topic of controversy. The *Dial*, while not really "mass" in circulation, also functions as a vehicle of communication and is, hopefully, a decisive force in the Downer community. However, while the staff feels pleased with the *Dial*, there seem to be inauspicious signs lurking in the paper. As a small paper, the *Dial* can function efficiently with a staff of ten people. While efficient, it can easily be stagnant because the paper naturally conveys the ideas of these ten instead of the total community. The problem of acquiring a representative staff is the problem of the publication itself. However, the problem of conveying any possible diversity of opinion, if such still exists on this campus, is the problem of every student, faculty, alumna or parent who reads the *Dial*. If the stand of the paper is not agreeable, one may contest it, not in a private corner of Kim, but in a letter to the editor to be printed in the paper. This is the only way controversy can be brought into the open and discussed intelligently. Our "Letters to the Editor" column appears rarely, and usually only when letters are assigned to staff personnel. This is certainly no way to incorporate the articulated opposition, so necessary in a free society.

The paper, without intelligent and articulated opposition, can be a very dangerous force. Even more important, students who accept without controversy various opinions in such a small and easily accessible publication will have little power to engage in a free exchange of opinion when faced with the powerful mass communications of the "outer world."

Sandra Edhlund, Editor

indicated their intention of enrolling at Lawrence. With such a number from this campus descending upon Appleton, there is little question of the impact of Downer upon Lawrence. (Names may be obtained in Miss Rinkenberger's office.)

Further news must wait upon further developments. Until many complicated details have been worked out, premature announcements cannot be made. Lawyers will begin drafting the articles of incorporation for Lawrence University in March.

One way to kill off "poor Downer" is to take the attitude expressed by the editor who apparently made no effort to obtain an interview and inform herself on developments—as even a rookie reporter will do before getting into print. Dr. Johnson has been frank and more than willing to talk over evolving plans with those who do him the courtesy of consulting him. What he will not divulge is the selfless devotion with which he has worked to preserve the identity of this college within the new university. Thanks to him, "There will always be a Downer!"

Gertrude B. Jupp

To the Editor:

I want to express my appreciation for your well-written editorial "Poor Downer's Dead." I also want to express the thought that it is slightly premature. *Rigor mortis* has not set in, for there still is heard the pulsating beat of an honest heart. Some may not wish to hear it. Others might even wish the heart to fail. Yet it does beat ever so loud and clear in the periodic editorials

of the *Dial*. For the editorials continue to pulsate a living spirit into an atmosphere of deadly indifference. When someone dies, we find it difficult to look upon the face and, oftentimes, we seek an immediate burial. But when the heart beats, there is life and also, oftentimes, life's urge to perpetuate what is healthy and viable in a body grown old. As long as you continue to write honestly, according to your convictions, Downer will retain that life. It remains for others to energize her total being and transmit to Lawrence the genuine commitment to a free and responsible academic community where the respect for person reigns supreme.

Sincerely,

S. M. Peck

To the Editor:

The tradition of responsibility in journalism demands that editorial statements, while admittedly personal opinion, be substantiated. This becomes doubly important when the nature of the statements is one of attack and criticism. Human decency and dignity would seem to indicate that some investigation of the facts be added to speculation.

I believe the editorial "Poor Downer's Dead" fails in this regard. One cannot condone in the name of "freedom of the press" an ill-written inflammatory article if it does not support its statements.

The Downer situation as it now stands is unique. A merger is before us in which we are at a dual disadvantage.

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X-Rays Can Be Mounted

by Lois Lane

"Are you kidding me?" quoth 150 students when they were told what the theme of this, Downer's last Cabaret, was. Nay, students, the yellow class is not joshing you. That is the theme, all right, and isn't it X-citing? (Get it? . . . X? . . . X-citing? . . . get it?)

Be that as it may, Lois Lane, famed prom reporter, ever ubiquitous, set out to track down any clues which might tell her how each class was progressing in the creation of subtle ideas (for which one class is famous) and sick puns (for which another class is famous) or any dirty stone throwing (for which still another class is famous). And it is too bad that Miss Lane didn't have superman with her—his X-ray vision might have come in handy. (Get it? get it?) And so, with her camera "mounted" on her back, she trudged off.

She found Gorda Shambaugh tearing out her hair, which isn't real anyway. Our reporter tried in vain to hear what she was screaming at poor bewildered Sue Rapp, who just kept repeating: "How should I know? I have never seen a Cabaret before." However, Lois Lane thinks they are faking . . . they were the first to have their script in.

Then things took on a rosier hue when our reporter visited Sue Mueller and Kathy Westering. They were both staring blankly at a wall. On a piece of paper nearby was one sentence: "Goliath, X-rayed have I?" Methinks that sentence has been crossed out since.

Lee Dodds and Mary Harding, when they were finally located, were sitting with a copy of *Skeat's Etymological Dictionary*, endeavoring to find any archaic or Old English ways of saying "X," of which there were none. The two then trotted away singing "Them Stones Gonna Rise Again."

Connie Nichols and Sandi Edhlund were discovered at a table in a dark room with a crystal ball in the middle of the table. It seems that they were waiting for some obscure message from the spirits. When our reporter had arrived, they had already received several esoteric results of haruspication and such, but rejected them because they were too obvious.

Last year's theme was "Stones Have Eyes" and that was different. But the yellow class has done it again; this one takes the prize. Purple holds the cup . . . but with a theme like "X-Rays Can Be Mounted," anyone could win. X-citing, isn't it?

Patricia Cartwright was omitted from the Dean's list in the last issue. Our apologies to Pat!

On the Qui Vive

by Cathy Grant

February, and the iceman still cometh, bringing along with him the atrocity of midwinter doldrums. Take hope, though, for this month also brings an especially worthwhile realm of activity in Milwaukee.

I have mentioned before the film series recently initiated by the Milwaukee Art Center which exposes the artist as a many faceted interpreter of life; this month, we see the artist as a poet. On Thursday evening, February 27, at 8:15, an example of young European avant-garde filmmaking will be shown, "The Mirage," from Sweden. There is no admission charge.

On February 26, Mt. Mary will have as its guest lecturer Ernest Kehr, globe-trotting journalist and member of the editorial staff of the New York Herald Tribune. Mr. Kehr, an authority on U.S. foreign affairs, will speak on "U.S. Foreign Policy at Work." The lecture will begin at 2:30, and is free of charge.

The original New York cast of Pirandello's "Right You Are If YOU Think You Are" will present the play for Milwaukee audiences at the Fred Miller Theatre, beginning February 17. Pirandello is among the most unusual and provocative of the European playwrights, and the play at the Miller promises to be of high dramatic interest.

Across the way, students at UWM have formed an organization called the Student Equality Fellowship (SEF), in an effort to explore and act accordingly on various issues in Civil Rights in the Milwaukee area. SEF will have program offerings along with concerted effort to investigate and mitigate racial discrimination in the Milwaukee area.

Book Review

by Meredith Murray

Thinking of *Fanny Hill* as just another paperback novel is like thinking of Dr. Pavlov as just another animal lover. This is one of the few books which deserves its notoriety and infamy. While the novel is enjoyable it is not for the prudish, the naive, or the closed-minded; these people would undoubtedly be terribly shocked and offended. Nor is it for the seeker of sensation; it is far more than a graphic sex manual. John Cleland's *Memoirs of a Woman of Pleasure*, published late in 1747, is both a commentary and a criticism of the time.

Fanny is a delightful, sharply drawn character, who has much in common with Moll Flanders. Both have a rationalistic attitude about their lives: "Well, there I was, an innocent young girl—what else could I have done?" Both are fun to know, and the reader cannot help but feel fond of each at the end of her story.

"*Memoirs of a Woman of Pleasure* is the product of a luxurious and licentious, but not a commercially degraded, era. The Georgians prided themselves on their grace and refinement; and although, in fact, they were sometimes brutal and coarse, they aspired to an ideal elegance. Of that elegance and the emotions it aroused, Cleland's heroine had her full share. For all its abounding improprieties, his priapic novel is not a vulgar book. It treats of pleasure as the aim and end of existence, and of sexual satisfaction as the epitome of pleasure, but does so in a style that, despite its inflammatory subject, never stoops to a gross or unbecoming word."

While the saga of *Fanny Hill* will undoubtedly never replace "Little Red Riding Hood" as a popular bedtime story, it is quite possible that were Fanny to be transposed from her mid-eighteenth century Georgian surroundings to our present day society, she might conceivably shudder at *Lady Chatterley*.

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Letters

(Continued from Page 2)

In the first place we are being displaced from our campus which in effect places us within the frame of reference of the other party in the merger. Also, we are physically vastly outnumbered. These two factors place us on the defensive, where we are humanly much more prone to react with hurt and immature anger at things which are not deserving of an offensive action.

The one valid criticism you make is a backhanded acknowledgment of a breakdown somewhere in communication. This became apparent last weekend when students learned what was happening from several alumnae who heard reports. Whose fault is this? Students requested that weekly, or at least frequently, bulletins be issued to inform us of what was happening. This has not been done. It is well known, for instance, that Miss Rinkenberger is functioning as an individual advisor, but it is not generally known that she has information on what faculty members are transferring, curriculum decisions, etc. It is not generally known that the Charter of Lawrence University has not been written yet. It is not generally known that Downer has two faculty members working on the Lawrence equivalent of the curriculum committee. Other facts like these are important — and students should know. This is something that must be corrected. We acknowledge that there is so much to be attended to, and so much that is still unknown that it is impossible to demand concrete facts immediately. But there is a break in this area. Some news has been forthcoming. Each student received data on financial assistance and graduation requirements of Lawrence University.

One of your criticisms is that "the faculty also did not take a unified stand on decisions." What decisions? And what decent faculty would take a unified stand? Students who want unified stands from faculty on anything do not come to private non-sectarian colleges. You are asking for mediocrity.

You bemoan the fact that we will "never know the actual details." No details are known. You do a lot of conjecturing in inflammatory terms. "Perhaps opportunities were available." Yet "they certainly were not taken." "It is also possible that . . ." "It appears that . . ." It is editorially irresponsible to masquerade opinion as fact.

Certainly an administrator who will not be involved in a new institution is in a difficult position. Perhaps what you condemn as lack of leadership is reticence in good taste.

I question also your assumption that students be policy makers. I believe the attitude that we are doing the school a favor by staying here is unhealthy. Student opinion has been solicited and in many cases incorporated into certain measures, but to assume in the name of student rights that students be policy-makers is absurd.

The seeming inequalities will persist because of size and geography. If Lawrence were coming to our campus, we would, because of practicality, be moving more in the Downer frame of reference. This is not possible. The mature attitude is to make yourself heard—constructively—and act. It is to go to the Appleton campus with an open mind and a willingness to work for what you believe in, or to transfer to an institution which better suits your personal tastes.

Barbara Allen

Social Equality

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of man's similarities in the face of such diverse conditions of life and opportunity.

In addition to gaining information about the various civil rights activities, the *Dial* attempted to ascertain the motives behind participation in the projects. The reasons given restored this reporter's faith in humanity and in Americanism in particular. Kathy Coffin answered, "Equality is a basic level of democracy and since we all say that we want the latter, we must work for it." This seems to be the general consensus of opinion.

Inequality is a real problem which touches everyone and its perpetuity destroys the ideal of America. It is felt that a "second-class citizenship" should not be bestowed on citizens who pay taxes and abide by the same laws that apply to majority groups: the same benefits of housing, business opportunities, and unprejudiced personal encounters. The criterion for personality judgment should be personal worth, not personal skin color. This latter criterion is an "ugly American prejudice"—a bias stemming from lack of knowledge, contact, communication and understanding.

Many Downer students feel that it is their duty as citizens to do all in their power to combat this prejudice and to

strive for a greater understanding of a people who will not be stopped in their freedom march to social equality.

Ann Slanders

As a woman of letters, my primary function is to observe, to allow my observations to sift through my mind where it is hoped they will encounter theories, to relate my findings to those whom they affect and to those by whom they are affected. As a human being, my secondary (but no less important) function is to make various and sundry suggestions to the alteration or reform of some of the conventions which are too inflexible or outmoded to serve in the best interests of mankind. My ultimate aim is to point out the shortcomings of this inadequate system under which we labor (often to no evident avail) so that those responsible can make the necessary adjustments, thereby proving themselves equal to the task to which they have been assigned. To this end, it is my intention to publish a series of articles bringing these aforementioned ills to the fore where, hopefully, they will be recognized and treated accordingly. In the tradition of Ann Slanders I shall approach my work with levity while attempting to temper it with subtlety.

As space does not allow for an amply elaborate or sufficiently lucid expose' of a persistent topic of concern to all of us, my first article dealing with "Institutionalized Food As We Have Known It" will have to appear in the next issue of the *Dial*.

Chapman Report

(Continued from Page 1)

because of fire regulations, the tower may still be visited. There is a door to the roof from the tower. (On a windy day one is almost sucked out on the roof, but here Downerites formerly sunbathed!) Another exit to the room takes one up a 25 foot narrow, dark circular stairway, which Mrs. Blakey calls the "Childe Harolde" stairway. A tiny door admits one to another section of the roof—this time the tower itself. A student tower committee, self appointed, watches over this room.

To go, properly clad and equipped, with a spirit of exploration, to the library, is truly an adventure. Old books, old music, old pictures, old mementos—tell us as much as the books we read.

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